## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

January 24, 2001 LB 24

the computer infrastructure is very poor. How does a work? If a parent takes a child to the doctor, the doctor has a record of the vaccines the child has already had, but if it's a new doctor there are no records. If we have a registry, the doctor's office will be able to access the registry and the child's vaccine history which is kept current by the previous doctor or health clinic or whatever entity the child last visited. The schedule for vaccine is very confusing. I handed out a handout to all of you so that you could see not only how expensive they are but also the different months when you have vaccinations. The regimen for one disease is different completely different from another, and the regimen can be completely different for the same disease from one age group to Medicine is an ever-evolving science and vaccines another. often, depending on the current research and effectiveness. That's why a registry is critical. It will contain all the data needed to determine when the last booster was given and when the next is due. Each entity authorized to give a vaccine will have access to the registry and will update it when a new one is given. Schools and day cares will be able to access the registry to determine if their enrollees are up-to-date on vaccines which are required by law for admission Effective immunizations have a profound effect into a school. on our health as a nation. Polio, for example, used to be a serious threat to our population, but it's been almost totally eradicated through the use of effective vaccinations. immune system is mighty, but it is far more effective with vaccinations. LB 24 is an important part of good health for all Nebraskans. It saves money. A vaccination is much cheaper than treating a contagious disease. How do we get there from here? The bill creates a task force to help answer that question. The task force will develop a plan looking at goals, access, the registry, infrastructure, funding, what agency should control it, and so on. A number of people got together and put together a list of persons representing the task force. I am concerned that it may be too large and I have an amendment after the committee amendments that will address that. Would appreciate it if you could support this. It is an important task force. I also passed out bookmarks that have the leading health indicators from the CDC, the Center of Disease Control, in Atlanta, and, if you'll notice, immunization is one of those